# MONTEREY NEWS

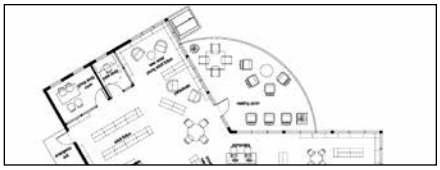
**August 2016**

**Est. 1970 Vol. XLVI · Number 8**

Kelly Tryon

*The Monterey Fire Company used the Jaws of Life to rescue the driver of a pick-up truck who drove head-on into a tree on Route 23 on Friday afternoon, July 22. The severity of injuries prompted the fire company to call for critical-care transportation, via a Life Net helicopter, which landed in a field off Route 23. The patient was transported to Albany Medical Center. The Monterey Fire Company extends its thanks to the Otis Fire Department and Southern Berkshire Volunteer Ambulance Squad, both of which assisted at the accident scene, as well as the Great Barrington Fire Department, which helped set up the landing zone for the helicopter. See page 2 for a report on the fire company's emergency response this past year.*

*—Felix Carroll, Monterey Fire Company*




Proposed Library Renovation Page 8–9


Please accept this letter as notice that I will be resigning from my positions as town treasurer and town clerk.


P.O. Box 9 Page 9


Their arms are full of pond lilies,
treasure hunted on ships of innocence.


Water Lilies Pages 14 and 15

Fishing Derby Page 17


A Query: Within the Bidwell House, which was built circa 1760, there is an interior door with two hearts carved in it.


Bidwell House Interns Page 18

Bracken Brae Farm Stand Page 10


Now I look forward to Tuesday afternoons for market day to get local veggies just picked from local gardens.


P.O. Box 9 Page 3


The McLaughlin-Wilson Scholarship Fund awarded $72,500 in scholarships.


Berkshire Taconic Foundation Page 6

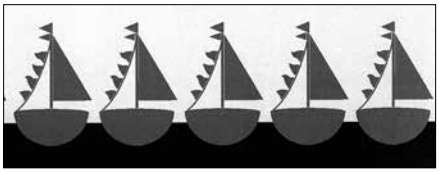
Knox Gallery Page 7


Practice, practice—vocal cords
Make harmony's true balance.


Choir Practice Page 15

Swim Lessons Page 20

Community Center Tag Sale Page 6


Montereyfest Page 21

## Fire Company Emergency Calls
### 2015-2016 Responses

The Monterey Fire Company's emergency responses for fiscal year 2015-2016 fell above the yearly average of the past five years.

This past year the fire company responded to 115 emergencies. The yearly average is 110 responses. There were 133 responses in the previous year.

The breakdown is as follows:

- 58 emergency medical service calls;
- 28 alarm calls, which includes smoke and carbon monoxide alarms;
- 13 fires, which include brush fires, structure fires, and mutual aid calls;
- 5 vehicle accidents;
- 5 mutual aid station stand-bys;
- 4 service calls, which includes state-of-emergency responses, trees on wires, and hazardous material containment; and
- 2 searches.

Thanks to everyone who turned out for this year's steak roast, whether you showed up to eat food and enjoy being with friends, or just helped to support the fire company by buying tickets. The fire company manages the fire house, all the equipment, and all the training with funds raised through donations and the steak roast.

With over 600 tickets sold, your support of the company underwrites this effort and is important as we move ahead with our renovation projects.

As a reminder, remember to change the batteries in your carbon monoxide detectors every year when you change the batteries in your smoke alarms.

—Felix Carroll
Monterey Fire Company

## Transfer Station Summer Hours

| | |
|---|---|
| Sunday | 10 a.m.–6 p.m. |
| Wednesday | 8 a.m.–1 p.m. |
| Saturday | 8 a.m.–1 p.m. |

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## Communication Projects
### Current Status

As many of you are aware; Monterey is trying to develop high-speed internet and cell service for its residents and businesses. What you may not be aware of is that plans for both are nearly complete.

Below are summaries of where these projects stand.

### Broadband

As we've known for a long time, many residents of Monterey have no access to true high-speed internet. Indeed, many folks have no access to the internet at all.

Monterey began the process of building its own broadband network many years ago. That effort was initially encouraged by the state, but stymied by the lack of accessibility to funds needed to actually build-out the project. While the town voted to borrow 2/3 of the project monies, the state placed a "pause" on the remaining 1/3. Many towns have decided to forgo state monies to speed the construction. This approach would place a heavy burden on Monterey taxpayers.

In May of this year, the Massachusetts Broadband Institute, which oversees Monterey's portion of the funds allocated by the legislature, was reorganized and an application process put in place. The select board immediately formed a broadband committee. The committee was tasked to move the town through the application process to qualify Monterey to receive the final 1/3 of the funds, and to make suggestions as to just who would actually build and operate the network.

The broadband committee has been diligently investigating all options and has performed several site visits to towns that have been wired with fiber optic networks, or are in the design stage. The committee has learned a great deal about what has worked for other towns and, more importantly, what pitfalls (both in money and time) face ill-prepared towns. This process is expected to be completed by September.

Once complete, the select board expects to enter into a contract with a broadband installer, with installation to begin in 2017.

### Cell Service

Cell service in Monterey is also quite poor. Several years ago, plans were put in place to build two cell towers, which would cover most of Monterey. One tower was built, but the second tower was never constructed. Last year, the select board sought to complete the project.

A cell tower company was located and introduced to the property owner of the pre-approved second tower site. With some encouragement and hard work from the town's boards, an agreement was reached this past winter.

The cell tower company is now in the final stages of permitting, bidding, and approvals. Once complete, they will begin construction of the second cell tower. The construction process can take anywhere from six to eight weeks and is weather dependant.

Completion of the second tower is expected in the spring of 2017, but could happen as early as December of this year.

—Steven Weisz,
Select board member

IN 2015, BERKSHIRE PROPERTY AGENTS BROUGHT THE BUYERS TO 9 OF THE 17 RESIDENTIAL SALES IN MONTEREY.* PLEASE LET US HELP YOU SELL YOUR HOME.

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BERKSHIRE PROPERTY AGENTS.COM
413 528 6800

*BASED ON BERKSHIRE BOARD OF REALTORS FIGURES

## P.O. Box 9
### Farmers Market

Just when I thought that Monterey was about the nicest and most jam-packed-with-greatness town, I found out that it was even better this year due to a new farmers market at our community center.

I knew that we already had a great general store, meeting house, art gallery, library, local newspaper, and artistry abounding everywhere, from painters to basketmakers and potters, and now we have a new farmers market. Thanks to Hannah Bracken for pulling the market together for everyone's benefit.

Now I look forward to Tuesday afternoons for market day to get local veggies just picked from local gardens. This week, I needed some potatoes for different occasions. I found some yellow and purple ones, as well as just-harvested blueberries and super sweet romaine lettuce. There were beautiful fresh flower arrangements, local cheeses, maple syrup, tasty baked goods, herbs, and so much more.

—Christine Goldfinger

## Monterey Graduate
### Lauren Gilderdale

Housatonic Valley Regional High School, located in Falls village, CT, held their commencement ceremony on June 14. Lauren Gilderdale was among the Housatonic graduates,

Lauren is the daughter of Byron Gilderdale of Monterey. She will be attending Westfield State University this fall and will major in Criminal Justice. Within this field, she hopes to focus on homeland security. Eventually, Lauren would like to work at the federal level in criminal justice. Throughout high school, Lauren made a name for herself as a starter on the varsity soccer team all four years. At Housatonic Valley, she was also a member of the varsity track team as a thrower. Lauren will be able to pursue her passion for sports at Westfield State where she will play on the soccer team and be a thrower in track events. Living in Monterey also fed her love of photography, with the landscape and nature throughout the town.

—Marya Makuc

## Board of Health Notice
### Lake Garfield Water Source

It has come to the attention of the Monterey Board of Health that some residences on Lake Garfield may be obtaining their domestic water directly from the lake. The board is very concerned and strongly suggests that this practice cease. While the lake is safe to swim in, it is not safe water to drink. There is the potential for bacteria and harmful parasites to enter the drinking water if your water is obtained from a contaminated source. This could cause serious illness, particularly if you already have preexisting medical conditions.

The board of health is interested in assisting those with substandard water supplies. The board will work with you to help you secure a safe water supply for your residence. Please contact our board of health agent, Peter Kolodzicj, at 413-588-4667, for additional information and help.

—John Makuc
Monterey Board of Health

### MONTEREY LIBRARY

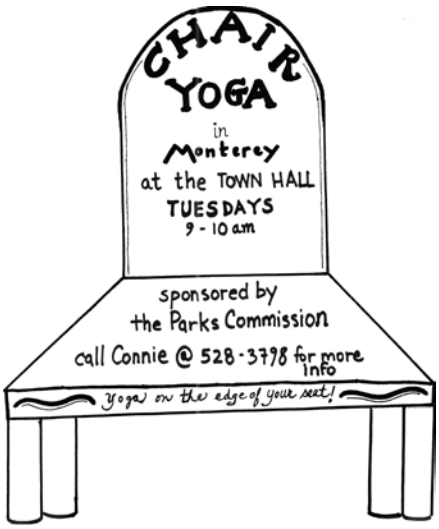
*Note extended Thursday hours!*

Monday.....7–9 p.m.
Tuesday..... 9 a.m.–12:30 p.m.
Wednesday.....2–5 p.m.
Thursday .....4–6 p.m.
Friday.....4–8 p.m.
Saturday .. 9:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m.
.....7–9 p.m.

MontereyMALibrary.org

Michael Storch

*Richard Tryon, treasurer of the Monterey Coffee Club, passes the baton to Steven Weisz, at a ceremony that included... coffee.*



You're Invited
Celebrate the Reverend's 300th Birthday
Saturday, August 13th, 2016
4:00 to 7:00 pm
on the lawns of
The Bidwell House Museum
Enjoy cocktails, delectable hors d'oeuvres
Celebrate with friends, do-si-do to the Hayrollers Bluegrass Band
Party to benefit the 1760s historic house museum and 192 acres of open space
Honoring Barbara and Richard Tryon
Barbara and Richard Tryon are cherished Montereyans and founding members of the Bidwell House Museum. Barbara, a teacher, served on the Museum board as Treasurer, Collections Committee member, and long-time volunteer. Dick runs Lowland Farm, is active with the Farm Bureau and the Monterey Coffee Club.

## P.O. Box 9
### Clerk and Treasurer Resignation

Dear Select Board:

Please accept this letter as notice that I will be resigning from my positions as town treasurer and town clerk. My last day of service to the town will be August 11, 2016.

I would like to thank the town for giving me the opportunity to serve in this capacity. I have been able to work with some wonderful people during my time here. In particular, my election staff has been absolutely wonderful, and the town is very fortunate to have such a delightful group. I have enjoyed working with the numerous departments that the town residents devote so much time and attention to. Unfortunately, I have found myself unable to adequately perform my job because of the constant sabotage inflicted upon me by Melissa Noe. I have asked the Select Board for help on this, but have not received any. I am not the first, nor I fear, will I be the last to leave because of this.

In the next couple of weeks, I will be wrapping up projects so that my replacement can start off with a clean slate. I will be working evenings to steer clear of any alleged "confrontations" with Melissa. I will do everything I can to assist the town with the transition

Again, thank you for the opportunity, I hope that the town can find a good town administrator, and that the town can get on track to being a functional government entity where officials are encouraged and supported to do their absolute best.

Sincerely,
Jennifer M. Brown

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Sky View Farm specializes in harvesting and milling lumber from your own land for your own use.
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Will & Amelia Conklin | 413 229 2992
203 Galvin Farm Trail, Sheffield

## P. O. Box 9
### Clerk and Treasurer Resignation

To our Fellow Montereyans,

That our recently elected town clerk and treasurer has resigned is no surprise, given behavior she cites that was allowed in her work place. The reason she gives in her resignation is so very familiar to those of us who faithfully served you as town clerks. Starting before 2009 we were each subjected to the same harassment and had no choice but to give up being town clerk. There have been five town clerks since 2009 in only a bit over seven years.

The individual chosen to replace the town clerk served as assistant town clerk previously. The choice for treasurer also served here for a period of time prior to the recent election of the town treasurer. Both are from other towns and were appointed partly in order to help newly elected officals from our town who have since resigned. Hopefully they will be willing to assume the same role again. Monterey needs to address the main issue behind resignations or we will continue to punish our own townspeople.

Are we are going to roll through person after person from our own town, each one quitting for the same reason time after time? A callous disregard for elective office by the town leadership and unwillingness to correct a punishing and toxic situation for other town officials does not reflect well on our town government.

Sincerely,
Barbara Swann
Linda Thorpe
Emily Johnson

*The three signers have all previously served as Monterey Town Clerks.*

## P.O. Box 9
### Clerk and Treasurer Resignation

Residents of Monterey,

It is my understanding that in this issue there will be a copy of the resignation letter submitted by the town clerk/treasurer. I have no intentions of getting into a petty contest or arguing with the author of the letter (although I am sure some would prefer a more juicy response). I will say that I am disappointed that she chooses to blame someone else for the reason she is leaving. She has been very open and vocal about the fact that there is a court order from Wake County, NC, requiring her to move back to North Carolina..

Her letter is not the first time someone in this office has blamed me for them vacating their position. This is despite the fact that there have never been any documented incidents and I have received nothing but praise from my superiors and all of the departments I assist (minus the occasional mistake made as I am human and by no means perfect). I strongly encourage anyone who thinks these allegations are true and were not a party to or witness of said rumors, to spend some time at town hall in my office and the other offices to get a good feel of how town hall operates and how most of the employees interact with each other (which is mostly positive).

People who choose not to come see for themselves first hand, and choose to continue to believe that just one person is responsible for discord in town hall and spread rumors to that effect, are only doing more damage than good to the morale of the employees and the general feeling at town hall.

Respectfully,
Melissa Noe
Monterey Administrative Assistant

SUSAN M. SMITH
Attorney At Law

32 Corser Hill Road
Great Barrington,
Massachusetts 01230

Telephone: (413) 229-7080
Facsimile: (413) 229-7085
Email: ssmithlaw@hughes.net

# P.O. Box 9

## Clerk and Treasurer Resignation

Monterey residents,

In order to move forward, let's look at the past.

Monterey once again finds itself in the uncomfortable position of having two key positions, treasurer and clerk, open because of resignations. This is the second time in a year that we have been faced with unexpected resignations. What is going on in town hall?

Last August the select board received the unexpected news that our treasurer and accountant were both resigning, and they gave their two-week notices. Although unexpected, the previous six months had been difficult, and there were serious questions being raised as we moved to close our books. One of the powers given to the select board is the ability to appoint an individual to finish out a term of any elected official not able to fulfill their obligations. (Only the treasurer is elected. The accountant is an appointed position.) We take this power seriously to protect the financial stability of Monterey. We reached out to neighboring towns in the hope of finding an experienced treasurer and advertised for the accountant position. We also received a letter of interest from a Monterey resident who had treasurer experience but ten years prior. We received a letter of interest from the Egremont town treasurer, and a number of accountants applied for the accountant position.

The problems we faced within our financial offices led us to hire the treasurer from Egremont rather than the Monterey candidate because of the Egremont treasurer's up-to-date knowledge of the position. An additional benefit was that one of the accountants applying was also the accountant in Egremont (along with Richmond, and Windsor), which offered us an experienced team to tackle Monterey finances. We believed it was the right approach at the time, and this was born out by the work necessary to get our books up-to-date. We made the right decision then, not based on the belief that we should have hired locally no matter what, but rather on the real and necessary belief that Monterey deserves the best.

What does this have to do with what's going on today? The local applicant not hired for the treasurer's position was Jennifer Brown, then our elected town clerk.

We managed to get through the next seven months leading up to town meeting in May, but Jennifer had trouble letting go of her disappointment at not being selected treasurer, and her attitude continued to interfere with a smooth-running town hall. In April she announced her intention to run for the treasurer's position. As we all know she ran unopposed.

The treasurer is the chief financial officer for the Town of Monterey and its nearly $4 million budget. How many of you, prior to voting, asked the questions: What are your qualifications? Have you taken any courses to update your knowledge? Are you committed to completing your term? Jennifer did not send a letter to the *Monterey News* explaining her qualifications and why she wanted to be treasurer. She did not attend the candidates forum or either of the two party caucuses. In fact the residents of Monterey had precious little information on which to judge this person who would be responsible for overseeing $4 million.

Well, we're two months into the treasurer's term and she has resigned with the implied reason that she was not supported by the select board and the administrative assistant. I beg to differ. Jennifer is under court order in North Carolina to have her children back in the state before the start of school because of a divorce situation. School starts the third week in August, and so her final day at work is August 11. Pretty obvious. The fact that she has known about this for the past year raises a serious question. Why would you run for office knowing you could not finish the term? I view this as a real slap in the face to all the hardworking town employees that make this such a great place to live, and to the residents who, by voting her into office, put their faith and trust in her to be a professional and do the best possible job.

Are there problems within town hall? Of course there are. There's not a town hall in the county that doesn't suffer from some interpersonal drama.

Have we taken steps to correct the problems and support our staff? Yes, with a focus on helping our financial team.

We are in the process of conducting a comprehensive financial audit.

We have a team coming in during the last week in July from the state Department of Revenue that will review and make recommendations to our financial management team.

We have a committee formed and have received resumes for the position of town administrator. Many of the problems associated with town hall are in defining the job responsibilities and managing interpersonal relationships, which are extremely hard for the select board to work on in open meetings.

We have taken steps to fill the two positions vacated by Jennifer's leaving, again with experienced people in similar positions from other towns. Once again it is short term—until the next election—when we will again be faced with finding qualified residents from a very small pool of potential candidates, registered Monterey voters. There will be more on this dilemma later.

For now, let's take a step back, turn down the craziness, and work together to get through this difficult period.

—Kenn Basler
Chair, Monterey Select Board

**MONTEREY UNITED**

**CHURCH OF CHRIST**

**Sunday Service · 10 a.m.**
**in the Meeting House**
**Elizabeth Goodman, Pastor**

**For Information and Assistance:**
413-528-5850
www.montereychurch.org
Find us on Facebook too.

## Berkshire Taconic Foundation
### McLaughlin-Wilson Scholarship Fund

The Berkshire Taconic Foundation has announced that this year the McLaughlin-Wilson Scholarship Fund awarded $72,500 in scholarships to the following Monterey students attending higher education.

### First-Time Recipients

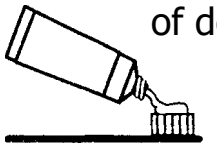
- Chelsea Balestro, University of Central Florida, Orlando
- Lauren Gilderdale, Westfield State University
- Justin Makuc, Holy Cross
- Claudia Martin, Massachusetts College of Art and Design
- Hannah Mulvey, Keene State College
- Shayna Sawyer, University of Rhode Island

### Renewals

- James Allentuck, The College of Wooster, Ohio
- Molly Amstead, Berkshire Community College
- Jonah Carlson, University of Massachusetts, Amherst
- Laura Anne Dinan, George Mason University
- Jacob Edelman, Brandeis University
- Katrina Fitzpatrick, Westfield State University
- Gabriella Makuc, Lawrence University
- Joseph Makuc, Ursinus College
- Ezra Marcus, University of Massachusetts, Amherst
- Judah Piepho, Georgetown University
- Leah Weisgal, Westminster College

DR. JERROLD RAAB
Dentist

All phases
of dentistry



528-6520

Route 23 Monterey

## Monterey Community Center News

### Octoberfest

Save the date—our fourth annual Octoberfest is scheduled for Saturday, October 1, 2016, from 11:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. It will be a day of fun with live music, brats, beer, homebaked goods, pumpkin roll, pony rides, and other engaging activities, including tours of the Center. Vendors interested in participating please contact Cara Carroll by email at carroll.cara@gmail.com.

### Tag Sale

Many thanks to all who donated to, shopped at, and volunteered for our annual July tag sale on July 16. Special thanks to Myrna Rosen, our tag sale queen bee. The net proceeds of more than $1,700 will assist in getting the renovations completed and the community center outfitted with tables, chairs, coffee pot, refrigerator, etc.

### Construction Update

Things are looking good in the construction department, with siding and trim work scheduled to begin in late July by a crew from Mark Amstead Associates. Interior work on stairs, flooring, window trim etc. is ongoing through the summer, and we hope to be ready for a final inspection sometime in early fall. In early July, Stephen Moore installed the amazing reproduction door emplacement that he copied from the original west door that faces New Marlboro Road. It looks just like the old one that had to be removed because of its lead paint! Many thanks to Steve for this donation of careful and thoughtful craftsmanship, and to Scott Wodecki for the enameled steel roof on top.

### Final Event

Our final event of this summer's outdoor program will take place on Sunday, August 14, with a *plein air* landscape painting class taught by local painter Joe Baker. All painting mediums are welcome. The class will run from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., and the cost will be a $30 donation to the Monterey Community Center. To register, please call Joe at 528-5134 or email him at joe@bakerworks.com.

Jean Germain

*Above: Myrna Rosen helps some young shoppers at the community center tag sale. Below: Part of the furniture "department." Other "departments" had women's wear, lighting, general household, health and fitness, and things for kids too.*

Maureen Banner

WOODRUFF MOUNTAIN
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Whether you are looking to renovate, rejuvenate, or just simply maintain your existing landscape, please contact Woodruff Mountain Landscaping to help you.
We offer a full line of outdoor services and are fully equipped and properly trained to help with any landscape construction project; excavation, stone walls & patios, tree & plant care, and driveway repair, to name a few.

Please call Tom Brazie to further discuss your projects needs.
References and portfolios available upon request.
Proudly servicing our area for over 15 years.

413-229-2919
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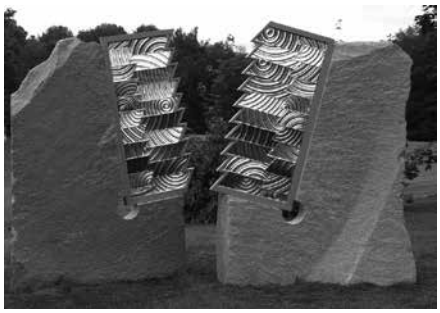
## August at the Knox Gallery

Anne Shatas' and William Carlson's *Rediscovered and Reconsidered* opens after the Monterey Library book sale concludes. We hope for a large turnout for the exhibition's reception later this month, on Saturday, August 20, from 6:30 to 8 p.m. The artists will speak about their sculptural work at 6 p.m., immediately before the reception.

Shatas, known for her work in ceramics, takes an unconventional approach to fabrication and materials in her sculptural forms. The work provides a strong provocative statement through an eclectic method of assemblage. Her materials are found, created, and re-formed objects, some of which have begun to decompose or have no identifiable trait. These fragmented objects become a whole, and are arranged to express a pun or emotion with a story. The artist notes, "I hope to create a shift from the obvious to the vague, coming and going, much like many of my conversations."

Carlson is internationally recognized for his work in glass, notably in large scale. His outdoor installations are currently featured in two Berkshire-based exhibitions: *The Nature of Glass* at Chesterwood (through September 18), which is curated by Jim Schantz of Schantz Galleries, and *Remix* (through October 31), presented at The Mount by Sculpture Now.

Carlson's sculpture is inspired by architecture, geometry, and repetition. Basic tenets are often revisited; dissimilar forms are combined and juxtaposed for maximum compositional impact, utilizing various materials and forms, whether in small scale or monumental pieces. The engineering logic of the structures is intentionally awkward, which can create a visually kinetic experience. Carlson comments that the works for the Knox Gallery exhibition revisit his earlier themes while pushing the limits of his current efforts.



*Above: William Carlson's* Vitro Murialis, *metal, glass, and granite, at Chesterwood.*
*Right: Anne Shatas's* Untitled*, wood, metal, bone, glass, and bird.*
*Photos courtesy of the artists.*

In addition to being known for their artistic works, Carlson and Shatas are both highly-regarded, accomplished educators, and most recently held faculty positions at the University of Miami and previously at the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign. We welcomed them in 2006 when they built a home in Monterey. They relocated here permanently in 2012, in part to be close to Shatas's family in the area.

*Rediscovered and Reconsidered* will be on view from August 5 through September 24. All exhibits can be viewed during library hours. Knox Gallery, Monterey Library, 452 Main Road, Monterey, MA, 528-3795; MontereyMassLibrary.org/Knox-Gallery; @Knox_Gallery on Twitter; Facebook.com/KnoxGallery.

—MaryPaul Yates

## The Town

The *Monterey News* is still lacking a town reporter. Several people have commented that the report based on official meeting minutes had be informative. These minutes are readily available both on the town website or through automatic emails (MontereyMA.gov/subscriber) and as such don't warrant the added effort.

We remain hopeful that someone with a strong connection to Monterey will consider becoming the town reporter. If you would like to explore the idea, please contact me, and we can begin a conversation.

—Stephen Moore, Editor
montereynews9@gmail.com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## Monterey Library Notes
### The New Library Design

Thanks to all who helped make the book sale another success! It is a lot of work combined with many donated books and countless hours of browsing. Gould Farm gets a special shout out for extra help in moving books. The Friends and the Trustees and countless other volunteers helped as well.

There's one more children's program on Saturday, August 6. MaryJo Maichack will return to sing and tell more stories. Don't miss the final program for the summer. It's not too late to earn an ice cream from the Monterey General Store, thanks to Scott Cole, so bring in those reading logs—and it's not too late to start reading. The program ends on August 15.

On August 8, at 7 p.m., there will be a public informational session at the library where the town will have a chance to meet the team that the trustees assembled to complete the planning and design grant. Tim Eagles, our architect, and Daniel Pallotta, our project manager, will be there to present the design that they developed in collaboration with the library building committee, using state guidelines and, most importantly, the library building program. The library building program was written with public input about what you and others in Monterey wanted to see for library services. The Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners have library standards as well. Their job is to ensure libraries offer services to everyone in their community. An example of this would be a dedicated teen area. We want to make sure every demographic group feels welcome and is provided with basic services. We also have to adhere to building codes. There are other regulations we will need to follow as we go down this road.

We began meeting with the designers this spring. They had read our program, and are knowledgable about state library standards and other building codes. Over the past few months we have met and told them about what is special about our library. We told them why it is important that the library remain in the center of town, which is a very difficult site to work with. We discussed how we wanted our library to retain the charm of a small library but also upgrade our ability to serve all populations. Accessibility is a problem with our current building. Parking is another problem, as anyone who just wanted to get a museum pass on Saturday morning can attest. We have programs that are bursting out the seams with people, and there is nowhere to hang an overcoat. The lack of a heated accessible bathroom with hot water is ,quite frankly, embarrassing. Yet many have told us they don't want to lose the charm of our current building.

The designers had structural and civil engineers come and inspect the building. A building built in 1931 did not have to meet standards for snow load. Though the building has survived, problems have shown themselves over the years, and there are times when it has not been possible to fix the root of the problem. Instead of fixing the drainage around the building, we removed the carpet and put everything in the basement on pallets. How many other structures in Monterey have the same roof they had in 1931? Electrical requirements and heating system demands have changed dramatically since 1931. Mr. Abercrombie used to be paid $1.00 a month to shovel the coal. We don't have the furnace we had back then, but the current furnace is not new or efficient by any means. The engineers did a test to determine if we could have a septic system so close to the river that would meet today's stricter standards. Fortunately the designers have found creative ways to answer all these challenges.

After all this work the library building committee is ready to show you the result. We can have a library that is accessible. It will be possible to install bathrooms and other code-required improvements. We can have all the minimum standards of a public library in Massachusetts, which even includes off-street parking. It can be done. Tim Eagles found a way to do it ,and he found a way to keep the original building and keep the character of the village. We'll be able to have a multi-purpose room that is 60% bigger than the current one. More art, more programs. At the same time, we will have spaces for people to go when they need to concentrate or study where they won't be bothered by the activity of a modern library. You told us you wanted to keep the charm of what you have now and we have done what we can.

At the same time we designed new library space that will provide you with up-to-date library services. One of the reasons the site was so difficult to work with was its proximity to the Konkapot River. Instead of complaining about the committee's commitment to this difficult site, the team found a way for library patrons to enjoy the view of the falls and the river year round, and in good weather there will be a reading deck that overlooks the river and the falls.

The next step is up to you. We will present the designs. If you approve, which will require a warrant article at an upcoming town meeting, we will apply for a construction grant. Hopefully, within a year we will find out if we will receive the grant. The town will have to vote to raise a portion of the total cost. Not until that vote, after receiving a grant, are we committing to a cost. So on August 8 everyone will have a chance to comment on the design. The current design as presented does not have to be followed precisely if the project is approved. We feel confident that the basic concept is what the town and the library commissioners want, and that it can be built according to current codes and in an environmentally responsible way. Doubtless, along the way we will find changes that have to be made, but with our excellent team we can overcome those challenges. As a veteran of this grant process, Dan Pallotta will outline what the costs will be to the town and how we can recover much of that by meeting state standards.

We want you to be on our team as well. We have enjoyed imagining the possibilities. You may or may not agree with all of our ideas. There have been moments when we have not agreed and have asked the designers


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# Town of Monterey Library Renovation and Addition Proposal (Preliminary) July 21, 2016

**Public meeting to study and comment on the plan, Monday, August 8, at 7 p.m., at the library.**

for more options. Not everyone will agree on every detail, but we feel we can reach a consensus that will make Monterey proud to have an up-to-date library that continues to provide the highest standard of library services possible for our small yet active community. When the representatives of the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners first came over five years ago they were not convinced we could continue to operate on this site. We've convinced them that the town wants this and the designers have proven to them it can be done.

Please come and join us August 8, at 7 p.m., as we broaden this community discussion for how how the Monterey Library can best meet the needs of Monterey in an accessible, safe, and important municipal project.

—Mark Makuc

The Library Trustees would like to thank Susan Cain, Libby Wolf, and the "pretty committee" for all their hard work keeping our library looking spiffy this summer. They set up and are maintaining the lovely planters out front, as well as giving the book drop and the ramp railing a new coat of paint. We appreciate their time and effort.

—Lisa Smyle
Library Trustees Chair

*Rediscovered and Reconsidered*
*Anne Shatas and William Carlson*

**August 5 - September 23**

Reception: Saturday, August 20, 6:30-8pm
*with artists' talk from 6:00-6:30pm*

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Monterey Library

Knox Gallery supported by Friends of the Monterey Library
Artist talks sponsored by Massachusetts and Monterey Cultural Councils

## Monterey Farmers Market

Thanks to all the folks who have come out on Tuesdays to support the new farmers market! We will continue to have vegetables, some fruit and flowers from the Carroll family's Tullyroot Farm and Hannah's garden (both in Monterey) The Brazies, from The Farm New Marlborough, have beef products, chicken, eggs, spanikopita, and much more. The Sweetish Baker has several delicious granola varieties, cookies, and other treats like cheddar basil biscuits and vegan brownies. The Rawson Brook Farm's Fetish has become many peoples' fetish and is only available at the market along with Monterey Chèvre.

Lowland Farm maple syrup, Hosta Hill krauts and Number 6 Depot coffee can be found at the market. Maddie delivered Hosta Hill's new Scape Kraut to the market this week.

### New Vendors

**Moses Sayre Sukin**—Berkshire Bio will be bringing lovely herbs and his newest product, an herbal tea. It is made in a way that combines traditional methods of producing tea (sun and shade withering, aging) with local herbs and use of local resources (finishing blends by drying them in a smoke box with Berkshire pine collected from residents in south county). Moses donates much of what he grows.

**Nina Campus**—Little For Brooks Farm preserves are headed our way. Beginning in August Nina will offer strawberry basil jam, tomato jam, earl grey infused blueberry jam, rose petal jelly, and orange habanero jelly. The savory jams and jellies are perfect for cheese plates, and go really nicely with our goat cheese.

Look forward to fresh pasta, pizza dough, English muffins, shortcake biscuits, fresh bread down the line.

—Hannah Bracken

## Bracken Brae Farm Stand

The property that is called Bracken Brae Farm was purchased in 1895 by my great grandfather. My great-grandmother was of Scottish descent, and she named the farm Bracken Brae, which, as I was told, means "hill and dale." They summered here from Wisconsin and later New Hampshire. They allowed the Richard Tryon's family to pasture their cows here. At that time there were very few trees and a lot of pasture. My grandfather, William Parker, loved it here very much and he also summered here with his wife, Anna Jones, and daughter Mary.

When my parents married they decided this would be a great place to raise a family. They built a house on the lake where they raised six of us. Most of my family moved away but still come to visit. I took up gardening with the guidance of my father who enjoyed working with the land. He taught me many things about the garden. I took this love and decided with my husband to start a small farm stand about 2004.

Since then the farm stand has grown and so have my gardens. You will find the stand at 495 Main Road, about a half mile from the center of town on the east side. It is an honesty stand, which means that there is no one there and I trust you to give me what I am asking for the vegetables. It is open from about 7 a.m. to about 7 p.m., seven days a week until Columbus day.

—Anna Duryea

*(The* Monterey News *may be available at the farm stand during the remaining months of the farm stand being open.)*


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## From the Meetinghouse

### The War of the Roses

You probably already know that, long before the War of the Roses was a movie, it was a multi-generational battle for power between English cousins, the Lancasters and the Yorks. The cousins led the Red Rose and the White Rose political factions and, made a living lie of Shakespeare's later observation, "A rose by any other name would smell as sweet."

The outcome of their political jockeying was the Tudor dynasty. The Tudor Rose, a marriage of the red and the white with a gold center, was a logo meant to celebrate the end of the factional wars. With the ease of hindsight, we know how well that turned out.

We're still reaping the harvest of that family quarrel today; that quarrel and many others. The arena doesn't have to be political, though it still is. The playing field doesn't have to be religious, but it still wears those clothes. But the Cousins' War isn't confined to those arenas.

The self-serving energies that drove those highborn English extended-family members into factions in the War of the Roses still play out today. Where? On national platforms in public arenas and in local living rooms behind the (real or metaphorical) closed draperies. They're re-enacted in schools, yes, even locally, as race and gender bullying. The War of the Roses, the Cousins' War, isn't over, and it's everybody's business.

Like it or not, if we're human, we're family. And the family's in pain. How will you help?

—Mary Kate Jordan

Mary Kate Jordan


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## Bidwell House Museum Township No. 1 Day

Thanks to many, many participants and wonderful volunteers—and to divine intervention by the weather gods—Township No. 1 Day was a wonderful day in Monterey.

Congratulations to Township Day Bake Off winners.

Cakes: 1st—Marya Makuc's Strawberry Shortcake Cupcakes; 2nd—JoAnn Bell's Apple—Currant Teacake; 3rd—Nadia Makuc's Gluten Free Surprise Inside.

Cookies: 1st—Grace Makuc's Butterfinger Cookie Dough Cheesecake Bars; 2nd—Mary Makuc's Oatmeal Lace Brooklyns; 3rd—Rosemary McAlister's Honey Bee Cookies.

Thank you to all the terrific bakers for your entries. They were greatly enjoyed by the crowds. A huge thank you to bake-off organizers Mary Makuc and Delight Dodyk, and to the judges, Barbara Tryon, Phyllis Vine, Carol Edelman (Monterey Select Board), Matt Puntin (Tyringham Select Board), and Joe Makuc. Thank you, Doug Neu, for organizing the judging.

Live music enhanced the upbeat spirit of the day. Thank you to the musicians: Steve and Pete—the Adams Brothers, Bonner McAllester and Joe Baker, and Robert Oakes and Kate Smith of Oakes and Smith.

Food and drink were supplied by Kenn Basler, Jamie and Marc Roberts, and Maria Rundle and Gould Farm. The Monterey Library lent tents.

The Bidwell House is grateful to the people who offered great programs: the history talks, demonstrations, exhibits, and

*Alix von Auenmueller demonstrated throwing pots and cups on her potters wheel.*

re-enactors. Thank you to Bernie Drew, Ruth Green, and Tom Ryan for giving talks. A huge thank you to craftsmen and women: Steve and Ian McAlister showed their skills at metal working. Camille Roos demonstrated paper making and book binding, and Alix von Auenmueller brought her potters' wheel to show how lumps of clay turn into bowls, cups and plates. Everyone enjoyed the photo exhibit by the Tyringham Historical Society and the arrowheads displayed by the Monterey Historical Society.

Township Number One Day was a success thanks to the volunteers who make it possible: Rob Hoogs, Rick Wilcox, Mary Makuc, Delight Dodyk, Kathryn Roberts, Justin Makuc, Joe Makuc, Jacob Makuc, Marya Makuc, Talia Pott, Samantha Watson, Alyssa Puntin, Nancy Jones, Maggie Barkin, Christine Goldfinger, Richard Greene, Kenn Basler, MaryJo Engels, Pat Salomon, Frank Kern, Julie Kern, Adam Kern, Gil Schrank, Barbara Tryon, Doug McTavish, Noni Bell, Paul Dodyk, Maggie Howard, Nini Gilder, Sarah Hudson,

*Forester Tom Ryan gave a talk, "Meet your forester for a talk and a walk. Bring your questions!" Tom is the Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation Service Forester for the Southern Berkshires, and lives on the Tyringham Road in Monterey.*

Libby Wolf, Maria Rundle, Tonio Palmer, Marc Roberts, Jamie Roberts, Ruth Green, Alix von Auenmueller, Tom Ryan, Camille Roos and Rosalia Padilla. Thank you all so much!

Grants from the Monterey Cultural Council and the Tyringham Cultural Council, local agencies of the Massachusetts Cultural Council, a state agency, made the day possible for us all. Thank you everyone.

—Barbara Palmer
Executive Director

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## Bidwell House Museum
### August Events

**Saturday, August 6**

Wigwams and Shelter-Building. Visit the wigwam at the Bidwell House Museum, and learn to build your own shelter with supplies from the forest floor. Lean-tos and nature's ready-made shelters will be discussed, while participants construct a shelter together. Members: $10. Non-members: $15. Admission to the museum is included in the program cost. 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

**Saturday, August 13**

"Adonijah's Birthday Bash!"

Fundraising party celebrating the Reverend Bidwell's 300th birthday in his gardens. Live music by the Hayrollers Bluegrass Band, cocktails, hors d'oeuvres, silent and live auction. A benefit for the historic 1760s Bidwell House Museum. 100 Art School Road, Monterey. 4 to 7 p.m. For tickets call 528-6888.

**Saturday, August 20**

History Talk: *Paper Pilgrims: Letter Writing and Communication in Early America*

Katherine Grandjean, Wellesley College history professor, will talk about letters as material objects and explore how they got from place to place in a world without postal service. Tyringham Union Church, Main Road, Tyringham. Members: $10. Non-members: $15. 10 a.m.

**Saturday, August 27**

Introduction to Willow Basketry. Weave a willow basket from local materials. Learn how to sustainably harvest willow, and learn different techniques for basketry: coiling, weaving, and twining. All materials provided. $35. Admission to the museum is included in the program cost. 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

For more information or to pre-register for any of these programs, please go to BidwellHouseMuseum.org, or call 528-6888. The Bidwell House Museum is at 100 Art School Road, Monterey.

## Bidwell House Museum
### "Adonijah's Birthday Bash!"

The Bidwell House, the Berkshires' Colonial history museum in Monterey, is holding its summer gala on Saturday, August 13, from 4 to 7 p.m. in the gardens of the Bidwell Museum's historic house.

This year's party celebrates the 300th anniversary of the birth of Adonijah Bidwell, first minister, and the museum is throwing Adonijah a big birthday party. The museum is also honoring founding members Barbara and Richard Tryon of Monterey for their support throughout the first quarter century of the Bidwell House. All proceeds of this event will benefit the Bidwell House Museum.

Guests at "Adonijah's Birthday Bash" will enjoy music by the Hayrollers Bluegrass Band, with Matt Downing on bass, Lukas Schwartz on fiddle and Jim Krewson on guitar. Kate Baldwin is preparing delectable hors d'oeuvres and cocktails.

Guests will be treated to period song and tours of the gardens and parlors. Both a live and silent auction will take place during the celebration, featuring fine art, collectibles, gourmet treats, and Berkshire experiences.

Tickets to Adonijah Bidwell's Birthday Bash are $85 per person before August 7, $95 at the door, and may be reserved by contacting the museum office at 413-528-6888. Or feel free to visit the museum website at BidwellHouseMuseum.org.

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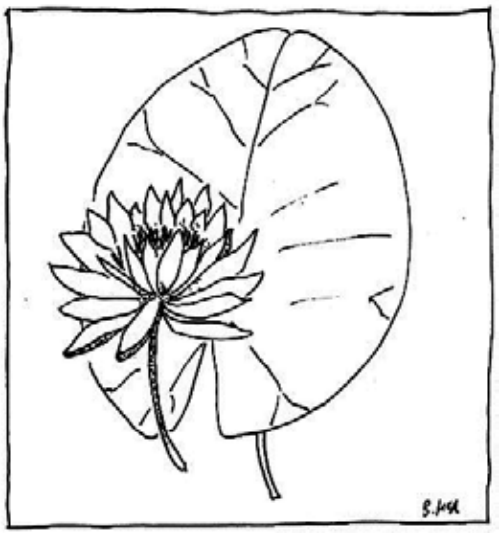
## Sweet Water Lilies,
### Our Lotus Blossoms



When the morning sun reaches the big white buds of this floating blossom, the petals open and anyone nearby will recognize the remarkable sweet scent of the sunny morning. Writing in 1852, Thoreau called these lilies "our lotus, queen of the waters, a superb flower." They are blooming now, easy to spot on still waters, surrounded by their big round lily-pad leaves which can be ten inches across. Last month in the *Monterey News*, Mary Kate Jordan quoted a centuries-old saying: "no mud, no lotus." Thoreau points out the same balance in his journal entry of June, 1852: "How sweet, innocent wholesome its fragrance! How pure its white petals, though its root is in the mud!"

Thoreau goes further, recalling that many times he has seen young men on their way to church, having just bathed. I know from reading Thoreau that "bathing" means going for a swim. He says these young men, "…having bathed, will walk slowly and soberly to church in their best clothes, each with a lily in his hand or bosom—as long a stem as he could get. At least I used to see them go into church smelling a pond lily, when I used to go myself so that flower is to some extent associated with bathing in Sabbath mornings and going to church, its odor contrasting and atoning for that of the sermon."

The big, fancy, white blossoms float right on the surface, open wide. Then they close up by noon or early afternoon. Many kinds of flowers put out their energies in the morning, in the interest of catching a breeze for distributing pollen, or for luring an insect for the same thing. The bright white petal color against dark lily-pad leaves makes it easy for an insect to find the blossom, once the fabulous scent has brought it to the general neighborhood. Just to make sure the insect is guided to the important center of the flower, this part is a lovely golden yellow, in contrast. Many flowers have various sorts of running lines to the center, in pink or red, to guide the small aircraft in. Water lilies use scent, color, location, and other elements too subtle for Thoreau or for me but just right for the pollinators.

The water lilies are called alligator blankets in South Carolina and alligator bonnets in Louisiana. In Texas they are water queens, or toad lilies. The leaves are leathery dark green on top, and striking red or purple underneath. This underside is home base to a whole community of small creatures. Many beetles lay their eggs there, and the larvae hatch out in this upside-down nursery, as do snails and caddisflies. There are fresh-water sponges here, adult snails, and animals called bryozoans which live in colonies. These are also called moss-animals, and make gelatinous group homes that look something like the masses containing frog or salamander eggs.

Once you know the name or names of a thing, you can look it up in books old or new. I have one I like from 1900. This writer calls the water lily the "sumptuous queen of our native aquatic plants, of the royal family to which the gigantic *Victoria regia* of Brazil belongs." She goes on: "In Egypt, India, China, Japan, Persia, and Asiatic Russia, how many millions have bent their heads in adoration of her relative, the sacred lotus! From its center Brahma came forth: Buddha, too, whose symbol is the lotus, first appeared floating on the mystic flower." (Neltje Blanchan, writing in "Nature's Garden," a volume of *The New Nature Library* from Doubleday, Page & Company.)

An 1892 writer on medicinal plants tells us that all parts of the water lily are edible and "the roots, in decoction, were much esteemed" by Native Americans for all sorts of ills. If you decoct something, you boil it down, or steep it in hot water.

Walk out by a beaver pond, a swamp, or get in your canoe and look around the edges of Lake Garfield or Brewer Pond. In these clean, clear places where no herbicides have been applied, the water lilies bloom from June to October, reminding us we have water queens right here. Like so many good things, they are rooted in rich and glorious mud. It's not long ago that we land creatures crawled ashore ourselves, from that primordial ooze. Like the young men of Thoreau's Concord, we should remember to take our Sabbath bath, emerge like them ready to balance the most difficult of sermons with help from the water queen, our gorgeous toad lily.

—Bonner McAllester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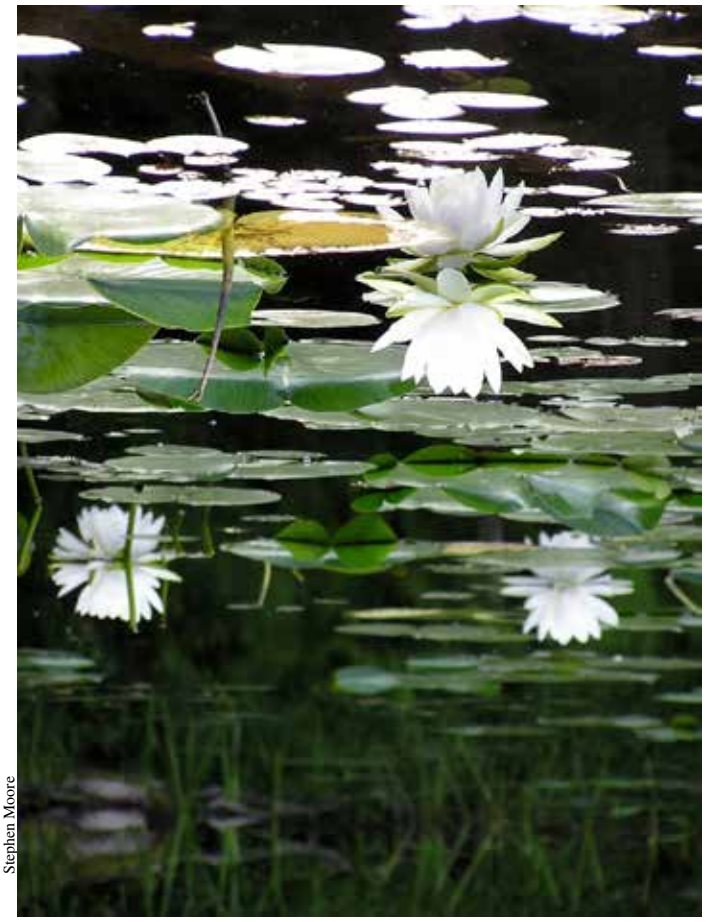

Stephen Moore

## Choir Practice

The vocal cords, those cords of voice
Of members fresh and clear.
How sweet their songs unto the Lord
Sweet music to the ear.

Our God delights when choirs sing
And solo parts are sung.
The grace that comes from "praying twice"
Are gifts from work well done.

Practice, practice—vocal cords
Make harmony's true balance.
Sweet music made with perfect pitch
Makes perfect vocal talents.

—Margaret E. Vorck

## Feet in the Mud

Laughing, damp with lake water, children
climb the hill in front of my house.
Their arms are full of pond lilies, treasure
hunted on ships of innocence. Petals'
paleness, full of subtle colors
like the droplets on their skin,
cannot duplicate their smiles.
Proudly, here in my kitchen, they press
all their bounty into my hands.
"We picked them for you," they chorus, and watch
while I search for perfect vases. Dirty
footprints decorate my kitchen,
door to sink to door. These kids
grow muddy feet, like flowers.

—Mary Kate Jordan
May 1994

## 2016 Hatchery Lobsterfest
### Sunday, August 21, at 2 p.m.

The annual Berkshire Hatchery Lobsterfest will continue our celebration of the more than one hundred year operation of the hatchery since the founding by the family of financier and fisherman John Sullivan Scully. For the occasion and for the enjoyment of those in attendance, a gourmet dinner will be catered by local seafood purveyor Other Brother Darryl's of Otis, with a free glass of wine or beer from Domaney's Liquors, hot dogs and hamburgers for kids, music, and a spectacular raffle with prizes from local merchants, including Domaney's and Berkshire Mountain Distilleries.

A fishing derby will be held on the morning before, August 20, to start off MontereyFest with an outdoor family experience for youngsters twelve and under who are accompanied by an adult. The derby runs from 9 to 10:30, in the lower pond along River Road (Hatchery Road from New Marlborough end). Learning to fish with parents and grandparents is a lifetime memorable opportunity, rewarded with a catch of generously sized brook trouts, and prizes. The Hatchery has sponsored this event for the past twenty years on one Saturday morning of each month from April to September. It has been an exemplary outreach for local youngsters, and fishing derbies, using our fish, are currently conducted by no less than twenty-seven fish and game clubs in Massachusetts and Connecticut. The next fishing derby is Saturday, September 10.

Berkshire Hatchery manager Jeff Mosher has provided the leadership and guidance, and supplied the trout, to these many clubs. Other Berkshire youth programs, such as the Inner City Christadora, visit the hatchery to experience aquaculture and the natural world, and to enjoy fly fishing lessons, also in the lower pond. Jeff has been outstanding in improving and overseeing the outreach programs, as well as providing his lake trout expertise. The Berkshire Hatchery has taken a rightful place of honor on the U.S. Fish & Wildlife organizational map.

Jeff is now moving on to a bigger assignment in Wisconsin as their statewide fisheries production manager, and we wish him and Kirsten well in their new family home. After such an outstanding career with us, he leaves with grateful thanks from his Monterey friends and others throughout the hatchery family of friends.

Please plan to bring family members to the fishing derby on Saturday, August 20, as well as to the Lobsterfest on Sunday. They are instrumental and vital for the hatchery's future as we pass the baton of achievement into the hands of the coming generation.

—George B. Emmons

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# Berkshire National Hatchery Fishing Derby on July 9

*Wouldn't the fish like to know this?*

*How to hold a fish, maybe.*

*Sizing a fish. You should've seen the ones that got away.*

Priscilla Alvarez

*A pleased and proud family from Mill River.* *(Other photos by Stephen Moore.)*

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# High Schoolers in Monterey
## The Bidwell House

Marya Makuc

*Intern Ella Carlson explains how the Bidwells kept warm during the harsh New England winters. Interns are encouraged to develop tours based on their interests in the property.*

For the younger generation in Monterey, summer resume-building activities in town are rare. The majority of teenagers who live in Monterey travel distances to work in restaurants and shops in neighboring towns. Those who find employment in Monterey can be found manning the registers of the Monterey General Store or the Harvest Barn, lifeguarding at the town beach, babysitting, or providing lawn care services. Though these are all fairly common jobs for high-school-age students, Monterey does have a gem of a high school internship, which is known to also bring in students from out of town. The Bidwell House Museum's Young History Scholar program has provided opportunities for students to learn more about the local history of the area for over a decade.

Although the internship is only a few weeks long, the short time period both ensures that everyone has an opportunity to intern and frees up time during the rest of the summer. Interns spend their time at the Bidwell House Museum learning how to give tours, researching, and writing articles for the museum's newsletter. While interns build their skill sets performing these tasks, the museum is able to grow in wealth of knowledge and teach the future generations about local history and a bit about running a non-profit.

Catherine Twing, an intern for three years, believes that this program helped her better her research and writing skills, which she now uses as a student majoring in journalism at Castleton University. In terms of being a museum docent, Twing thinks that "having adults listen to you and really rely on what you are saying builds confidence." Just glancing at the Museum's TripAdvisor page proves that visitors of the museum are impressed by the knowledge and poise of the high school docents. One such review even noted that the interns were "fabulous guides answering all of our questions with incredible information."

Many interns heard about the museum through guidance counselors or in the news, while others, like Jacob Makuc, an intern for the past three years, heard about it from family members who were interns. Although the research aspect has captivated many with intriguing discoveries about the property or the Bidwell family, giving tours seems to be a favorite responsibility among the interns. Makuc says that giving tours can be a "really fun thing to do when you have people who are interested in the house and the people who used to live there."

According to Emily Halford, a Bidwell intern for four summers, the Young History Scholar program is "unique in the amount of autonomy and responsibility that interns have." For interns, the Bidwell House property is their oyster. These high school students have a plethora of colonial artifacts, architectural elements, and historical documents to explore. Unlike many museums, each tour is different. Interns shape their tours based on their areas of expertise and what makes them curious.

Museum Director Barbara Palmer believes that this program is "one of the most successful initiatives at the Bidwell House: it fits the museum's education mission perfectly, and it equally benefits the students and the museum." Ella Carlson, who has interned at the museum the past three years, has a typical response to the internship: "The familiarity, mixed with the unexpected discoveries that happen so often when exploring the Bidwell House, are what draw me back to this program year after year."

—Marya Makuc

### A Query:

Within the Bidwell House, which was built circa 1760, there is an interior door with two hearts carved in it. If you know of any other colonial homes with hearts carved in a door, or have heard any reasoning as to why a door could have been carved with hearts, please let Marya know at makuc.marya@gmail.com.


**Thai Yoga Bodywork**

*Local References* *Sliding Scale*

*with*

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# Monterey Artists Shows

## Joe Baker

In the month of August the Sandisfield Arts Center Gallery will host a show of recent paintings by Monterey painter Joe Baker. The opening reception will take place on Saturday, August 6, from 1 to 3 p.m., and the show runs through August 28. The gallery is otherwise only open when there is an event at the Arts Center (see SandisfieldArtsCenter.org for the schedule) or by appointment. You can call Joe at 528-5134 or email him at joe@bakerworks.com.

Joe paints primarily in pastels and oils, and the light on the landscape is his usual subject matter. The oils and pastels in this show will represent locations from New England as well as locations in the Adirondacks, Wyoming and Arizona. You can see examples of his work at bakerworks.com.

## Ruth Champigny

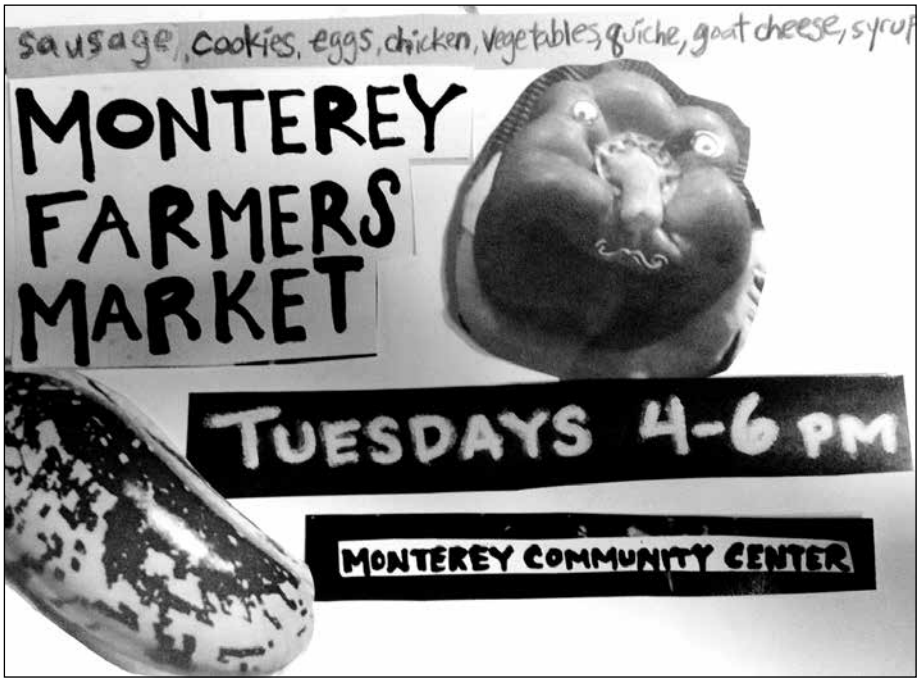
Ruth Champigny will have artwork on display at the TD Bank, 227 Main Street, in Great Barrington, from August 1 through August 31. The bank is open at 8:30 a.m. Mondays through Saturdays, and closes Mondays through Wednesdays at 5 p.m., Thursdays and Fridays at 6 p.m., and Saturdays at 3:30 p.m.

Originally from New York, Ruth's father relocated the family to Massachusetts when she was a young teenager. He bought her a set of oil paints and she went to art classes here in Berkshire County. Years later she was invited to join the watercolor classes of illustrator Evelyn Price. She became her mentor; she loved watercolors, it was much faster than painting with oils, giving her freedom to be spontaneous. For many years she studied under the guidance and inspiration of Mrs. Price.

Since then, Ruth has taken art classes at Berkshire Community College. For the past fifteen years she has been painting with artist Vera Thyberg with whom she's learned to use pastel colors, a very challenging but delightful way to create vivid color and texture.

## Julie Shapiro

Julie Shapiro will have artwork at the New Marlborough Meeting House gallery through August 28. The group show, featuring a wide variety of media, is built around a theme of "Wild Life." The gallery will be open Fridays through Sundays from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Julie will be at the gallery on July 31, from 1:30 to 4 p.m. if you'd like to talk with her about her work.

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Steve Graves

The "Boys of Summer," free baseball for players eight to eleven years old, started July with a "Players versus Parents" game at Greene Park behind town hall. Informal pick-up games will continue into early August on Wednesdays, at 5 p.m., and Saturdays, at 10:30 a.m. Players of all levels are welcome. —Steve Graves

*Top left: The boys in June.*

*Bottom left: The boys, with the older boys, in July.*

*Below: The senior boy, Bob Rausch, showing that you're never too young to throw an opening pitch, at the July 17 Pittsfield Suns ballgame.*

Steve Graves

A fan of young players


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All starts on town beach at 2:00

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## July 2016 Contributors

Thanks to the folks who are still responding to the spring fund appeal, or who are just contributing because they want to. This month we are including an insert for folks who pick-up copies around town as they aren't part of the spring appeal. Regardless of how the copies arrive in your hands, or on your computer, it still costs more than $2 per copy. So thanks to every one on this list and to all the other contributors over the years.

Ron & Liz Oppenheimer
Carol & Chip Smoler
Susan & Michael Johnson
Peter & Karen Schulze
Helaine & Jerry Green
Suzanne O'Connell
Tim Lovett
Laura Dubester
Richard Winslow
Ricki Long & Walder Corwin
Dennis & Elaine Lynch
Stephen & Ruth Dube
Joanne O'Connell-Foster
Earl & Ruth Champigny
Allan Dean & Julie Shapiro
Gerry & Midori Curtis
Jane Volckhausen
Margaret Dudley
Jane & Richard Perin
Dorothy Seirup
Katherine Bouton & Robert Menaker
Ed Salsitz & Arrie Setiawati
Hariton, Mark and Sue
Edith Green, Edith
Bill Michaud, Bill
Gillian Panchy, Gillian
Michelle Scott, Michelle
Gary and Laurie Shaw
Margaret Vorck

Bees on poppies, Maureen Banner

## Politics

Everyone bad-mouths "politics." As for politicians—they're beneath contempt, if you've tuned in to the current campaign rhetoric. Who would dare defend dirty tricks, rigged elections, backroom deal making, base appeals to popular prejudices, empty slogans, false promises, contradictory statements, legislative gridlock, and the corrosive influence of money upon the system? Just as the preparation of sausages is not for the squeamish, politics, we're told, has little in common with church picnics, or politicians with paragons of virtue. But have we tampered with the jury? Have we really allowed the defendant his day in court? Would it be sufficient to say giving birth is a bloody, painful, even agonizing experience without acknowledging the end result? The problem is we've allowed one aspect of politics to define the entire process, and we've paid a price for our cramped view. Let me offer a more expansive and potentially more useful definition. Here's what's going on:

**Politics as Circus:** This is mostly what the public sees and reacts to, and what turns it off. Manipulated district lines, campaigns that descend into the gutter, incumbents re-elected again and again, politicians feathering their own nests, powerful lobbies calling the shots, pointless parliamentary maneuvering, legislative discussions with few in attendance, legislation that gets watered down, critical components stripped away—it's not a pretty sight, but it's not all there is.

**Politics as Platform:** Issues of all sorts spill out continuously upon our society as groups advocating one course or another attempt to attract the public's attention and advance their cause. It is, however, only after specific issues enter the political arena, andbecome incorporated into the platform of individual politicians or party organizations that they gain momentum, stand a chance of becoming public policy. Politics provide an essential forum, set the terms of discussion, and can at times transform slogans into legislation. The efforts of civil rights demonstrators eventually bore fruit in the Civil Rights and Voting Rights Acts of the mid'60s. Environmental organizations left their mark on legislation, curtailing the pollution of our waters. Anti-abortion groups succeeded in getting numerous state legislatures to introduce specific requirements before abortions could proceed, and organizations in favor of limiting the rights of gay Americans helped win passage of the Defense of Marriage Act. To promote your cause, it's best to go political.

**Politics as Power:** Beneath the blather and bravado, the political system, either through its actions or inactions, distributes enormous benefits and reflects the power relationships within our society. Not evenly and not fairly do the "goodies" go out to those who understand what's at stake and spare no efforts to secure as much as possible. The powerful, the organized, the well-connected enter this competition with decided advantages. They can dispatch legions of lobbyists to Washington, pour money into candidates' coffers and, through their organization, seek to frame public understanding and discussion in a way favorable to their goals. They will, of course, be contending with opposing interests. Sometime it's a fair fight. More often, superior resources and influence make it one-sided. Whatever the outcome, power plays are everywhere, bare knuckles scarcely concealed.

**Politics as Pacifier:** There is a point of view that insists politics should be a pristine process, that all one need do is determine the public good, then enact laws to advance it. In a perfect world we might experience something like that. Here on Earth, as we've noted, it's a "jungle" out there, most everyone out for themselves, every group attempting to advance its own interests. In such a contested environment, politics serves as a peace-maker, a system that attempts to mediate among a bewildering

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variety of players. Here the wheeler-dealer, the deal-maker, the compromiser, performs a vital role. Essential are politicians who can articulate a principled position, can cross the aisle, coax the recalcitrant, distribute rewards, and let most everyone feel they've gained something. Under-the-table deals, back-room maneuvering, and strenuous arm twisting can be expected in a process that will not be highlighted in civics class textbooks. And what emerges is no masterpiece, but a carefully crafted piece of ungainly legislation that satisfies no one but offers something for nearly everyone. We're talking here, as Donald Trump preaches, about the "Art of the Deal."

Democracy is messy, we hear, and so must its politics be. We should not be distracted and diverted by its outer trappings, its gamesmanship and gimmickry. If we are, we'll only get furious and simply turn off. That may be what certain powerful interests hope we'll do. If people hold their noses, declare a pox on both their houses, take pride in not voting or participating, that will simply pave the way for others more energized and determined to take matters into their own hands. Politics is not a form of comic relief; it is, at its core, about reconciling opposing interests, maintaining some semblance of the public good, and constructing compromises to achieve these ends. It has to be taken seriously.

—Richard Skolnik

## Remembrance
### Leona Chamberlin

Leona C. Chamberlin, 89, of Monterey died peacefully at her home on Friday, July 10, 2016. She was born September 3, 1926, in East Angus, Quebec, Canada, the daughter of Eugene and Mabel (Hayes) Champigny.

She lived in North Canaan, Connecticut, from 1958 to 1978 working first for a doctor for fourteen years and, following his death, for the Canaan National Bank/ Salisbury Bank until her retirement. Moving back to Monterey, she enjoyed her family and home for the rest of her years. Leona was warm and welcoming to everyone she met and shared her laughter with all.

She leaves her daughter, Linda Thorpe of Monterey, three grandchildren, Donald Whitbeck of Great Barrington, Ellen Whitbeck and her husband, David Bell, of Monterey, and Patricia Thorpe of Monterey and her partner, Edward Davidson. She is survived by one great-grandson, Cody Funk of Monterey, one sister, June Tryon of Monterey, one brother, Earl Champigny of Monterey, a special "daughter" Charlotte Zagurski of Connecticut, as well as many nieces and nephews. She was predeceased by her partner of forty years, Felix Zagurski, and by her seven brothers.

Following her wishes, graveside services were held on Sunday, July 10, 2016 ,at Corashire Cemetery, Monterey. Donations in her memory may be made to the Eleanor Sonsini Animal Shelter, Pittsfield, MA.

ॐ


**SWIM LESSONS**

Anna Zdziarski, Lake Garfield's Head Lifeguard will hold swim lessons:

- **August 15-19**
- kids ages 3-13
- Monterey residents : FREE
- out of town residents: only $5

Anna is a Division III college swimmer and has been teaching swim lessons for seven years.
Sign up sheet located at the lifeguard shed.
Any questions or concerns,
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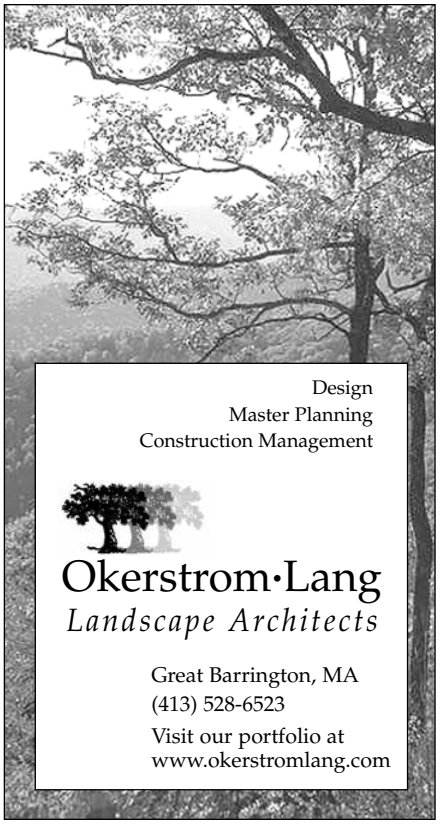



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# Wildlife Report
## Mid-June to Mid-July

**Many Bears, Some Eagles, a Lion, and More**

In late June, Manny and Elizabeth Wolff, who live on Main Road, saw two bears, and one was missing its right fore-paw. This must be the same one seen on New Marlboro Road a couple of times earlier this summer. Continuing with the bear stories, Jon Sylbert sent us notice of a romance in his yard on Beartown Mountain Road, and Essy Dean saw one bear very near her screen porch on Hupi Road. It had a brown patch on its back. A couple of weeks later, this porch was visited by a different bear plus two cubs. These three were not wise in the ways of screen doors. They came and went the hard way, doing some damage to the screens.

On Lime Rock Road, Sue Schmerler was visited by a young bear on her upper deck. The bear was startled and went down a spiral staircase to the lower deck, and then away. Sue heard splashing in the lake and later wondered if the bear was responsible for the dead duck she found in the lake. I wonder, myself. In the first week of July, Sue Epstein of Hupi Woods Circle saw a medium-sized bear with two cubs.

Ray Coddington called to tell of a bear in mid-July. At his place on Tyringham Road. (the one that goes from West Otis to Tyringham), there is a front screened-in porch and then a glass inner door. Ray and his dog were inside watching the news, and they looked up to see a bear up on its hind feet at this inner door. Looking past the bear. Ray saw that the screen door was part-way open, so he yelled, the dog barked, and the bear left the way it had come, with no harm done.

Mary Kate Jordan saw a young bear in early July. It came up the stairs onto the deck, but left when frightened by the sound of the sliding door. Mary Kate has also seen a wonderful adult fox, more orange than red, with a darker mid-back and a full tail. This fox chased and caught a squirrel right outside the window of Mary Kate's office.

Chuck Pierce has written in from Cronk Road that he and John Farrell saw a long-tailed weasel coming out from under the porch. It stopped to look at Chuck, and then dashed back under the porch.

Cora Baker was lucky enough to see a moose in early July, near Route 23 in Otis by those swampy places near Mike Prentice's house.

Eagles are in the news around Lake Buel. Back in May, Guy Nordoff saw an eagle flying with a fish from the hatchery on River Road, and later saw one in the tall pines of Camp Half Moon, by Route 57. Then in early July, Jon Sylbert sent in a fine photograph of a young eagle, just fledged (left the nest), near the parking lot at Camp Half Moon. Talking to the director of the camp later on, Jon learned the young eagle was mostly on the ground and being fed and watched over by its parent for that first day. After this it was able to fly up into low tree branches and onto the top of fences around the camp.

Another fine big bird in these parts is the turkey buzzard, and Ed Salsitz saw one fly up,l having made making a meal of a road-killed raccoon in Mill River. Ed took a photo of the turkey buzzard against the sky on a big dead spar. The road is a danger to all of us animals, big and small. Suzanne Sawyer has seen some bunnies killed on the road, and a fox kit. There was also a coyote who survived by quickly deciding not to cross after all, by Scott Jennsen's place on Route 23. The Sawyers have seen one black bear pass through the yard on the way to the neighbors'. Suzanne sent in a photo of an eastern tiger swallowtail butterfly, and writes that she has seen silver-spotted skippers (these are a kind of butterfly), many bees, and, in the her opinion, an excess of Japanese beetles. House wrens have taken up residence in one of the Sawyer bluebird boxes.

Janet Jensen reports that her friend Bradley Tryon, who often drives the Tyringham Road in early morning, has seen a moose cross that road and also a mother bear with three cubs in early July. Then, on 10 July, Bradley saw a mountain lion very clearly, crossing the road near Lake Garfield. This unmistakable big cat had a long tail.

Send me all your wild news, and many thanks.

—Bonner McAllester
528-9385 bonnermca@gmail.com

*Above; Ed Salsitz' buzzard.*
*Below: Suzanne Sawyer's swallowtail butterfly.*

Bridget Krans

*This was my first time working with Russ Wilson of Bees Across Massachusetts. Meeting these bees up close I learned that they are very gentle. I helped Russ find the Queen. In August we will mark her with special paint.*
*— London Krans, Age 8*

*Above: Jon Sylbert's eagle fledgling.*
*Below: Lanna Knoll's garter snake.*

On July 9, Russ Wilson gave a great introduction to his project of raising Berkshire-tolerant bees, including his hives at the community center. Fifteen interested Monterey folks showed up and asked him question after question.

He is raising queen bees which he then installs in other Berkshire county hives so they will cross-breed. Londan Krans asked him many questions and he ended up asking her to be his assistant with the Monterey hives. Several days later he gave her a tour of the hives.

*Russ Wilson answering questions at his workship.*


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## Select Board Corner

### MontereyMA.gov

Our town website is a great way to access information about the town.

### Meetings and Events

**Board of Health:** Monday, August 1 and 15, at 4 p.m. Please call 528-1443 x111 to be placed on the agenda.

**Conservation Commission:** Tuesday, August 9, at 6 p.m.

**Council on Aging:** Wednesday, August 10 and 24, at 10 a.m.

**Free wellness clinic:** Berkshire VNA on Thursday, August 11, from 2 to 3 p.m.

**Foot Nurse:** Thursday, September 8, 9 to 11:30 a.m., by appointment (please call 528-1443 x247). All ages are welcome.

**Parks Commission:** Wednesday, August 3, at 6 p.m.

**Planning Board:** Thursday, August 11 and 25, at 7 p.m. Please call Maggie Leonard at 528-9685 to be placed on the agenda.

**Select Board:** Mondays, August 1, 8, 15, and 22 at 9 a.m., and August 29 at 4 p.m. Please call 528-1443 x111 to be placed on the agenda.

**Second-home owners meeting:** Saturday, August 20, at 10 a.m., in the town hall meeting room.

### Office/Town Hall Closings

Individual office closings are posted on the town calendar and on the department's voicemail message.

### Lake Garfield Working Group

The select board is looking for committed volunteers to serve on the Lake Garfield Working Group. The mission for this group is to help sustain this treasure by keeping it healthy, safe, and accessible, beginning with the health aspect. Separate working groups shall be impaneled to address the Safety & Accessibility aspect.

Membership shall include one select board member, one conservation commission member, one board of health member, one parks commission member, two members of Friends of Lake Garfield, and an additional four town members. This working group shall meet a minimum of once a month. Meetings are expected to begin in late summer and continue throughout the fall and winter. Members of the working group should expect to attend all meetings.

**Lake Health**

- Identifying contaminants, invasive species, and activities that threaten the watershed.
- Preventing and regulating those contaminants, invasive species, and activities from injuring the watershed.
- Developing strategies to combat and reverse the effects of contaminants, invasive species, and activities that have already damaged the watershed.
- Investigating the need for, and development of, a wetlands by-law
- Assessing the role of enforcement by health, building, and police departments, harbormaster, and related by-laws, and state and town regulations.
- Educating the public and town government on the issues above.

**Lake Safety**

- Assessing current rules and regulations.
- Assessing the role of enforcement.
- Determining unsafe conditions and practices and how to prevent or combat them.

**Lake Accessibility**

- Assessing current accessibility (parking, beach and beach facilities, boat ramp, lake information) for townspeople, beach goers, swimmers, and boaters.
- Assessing the role of enforcement.
- Determining unsafe conditions and practices and how to prevent or combat them.
- Determining and planning for future needs.

Anyone interested in service on this working group should send their letter of interest to admin@montereyma.gov, no later than August 12, 2016.

### Other News

There have been a lot of bear sightings of late, please bring in your bird feeders and do not leave trash outside.

For everyone's safety please wear light-reflective clothing when out jogging or walking so that motorists can see you.

Beginning in September the select board will be moving their meetings from Mondays to Wednesdays at 9 a.m. This change will go into effect with the Wednesday, September 7 meeting.

—Kenn Basler, Chair
Steve Weisz and Carol Edelman
Monterey Select Board
(kenn@montereyma.gov)
(steve@montereyma.gov)
(carol@montereyma.gov)

For general inquiries, please click "Contact Us" at www.montereyma.gov

Stephen Moore

*Pictured above is the state of the new transfer station project at the end of July. The concrete walls have been backfilled, gravel laid down for the roll-off containers, and a boulder retaining wall has been constructed. Mark Amstead Associates should be beginning with the wood frame construction in August.*

## Calendar

**Every Sunday:** Adult softball. Batting practice at 10, games 10:30, Greene Park.

**Every Tuesday**:

Chair Yoga with Connie Wilson, 9 to 10 a.m., Monterey Town Hall. Free, sponsored by Monterey Parks Commission.

Cards and Games club, at 12:30 to 3 p.m., at the town hall.

Bidwell singers gather to practice, 4 p.m., community center.

Monterey farmers market, 4 to 6 p.m., community center. See page 10.

**Every Saturday in August:** Our Lady of the Hills Chapel, mass at 7 p.m.

**August 5 through September 24:** Knox Gallery exhibit, Anne Shatas and William Carlson, *Rediscovered and Reconsidered.* See page 7.

**Saturday, August 6:** Bidwell Crafts Workshop: Wigwams and shelter building. 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., Bidwell House Museum. See page 13.

**Monday, August 8:** Library renovation and addition project discussion. See the plans, meet the architects, give some feedback. 7 p.m., Monterey Library. See pages 8–9.

**Thursday, August 11:** Wellness clinic, BVNA, town hall meeting room, 2 to 3 p.m.

**Saturday, August 13:** Bidwell House birthday bash to celebrate Adonijah Bidwell's 300th birthday. See page 13.

**Sunday, August 14:** Monterey Community Center, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., *plein air* landscape painting workshop with Joe Baker. See page 5.

**Monday, August 15:** Tell your story: Young adults tell tales about being Bidwell House Museum interns. 7 to 9 p.m., Monterey Library.

**Saturday, August 20:**

*Monterey News* deadline

Second-home owners meeting, 10 a.m., in the town hall meeting room.

Fishing Derby, 9 to 10:30 a.m., Berkshire National Fish Hatchery, kids twelve and under. See page 17. (Next derby is September 10.)

Bidwell History Talk: *Paper Pilgrims: Letter Writing and Communication in Early America,* Katherine Grandjean, Wellesley College history professor. See page 13. Tyringham Union Church, Main Road, Tyringham. Members: $10. Nonmembers: $15. 10 a.m.

**Saturday, August 20, cont.**

Montereyfest starting at 2 p.m. See page 21.

Knox Gallery exhibit, Anne Shatas and William Carlson, *Rediscovered and Reconsidered.* Artists talk at 6 p.m. followed by a reception from 6:30 to 8. See page 7.

Lenox Contra Dance from 8 to 11 p.m., new dancer session at 7:45. Live music by Berkshire county's Spare Parts, with all dances called and taught by Quena Crain. Lenox Community Center, 65 Walker St. LenoxContraDance.org. Contact 528-4007.

**Sunday, August 21:** Berkshire National Fish Hatchery's annual Lobsterfest, 2 p.m. See page 16.

**Saturday, August 27:** Bidwell Crafts Workshop: Introduction to willow basketry. 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., Bidwell House Museum. See page 13.

**Monday, August 29:** Adult book group meets at 7:30 p.m. Knox Gallery, Monterey Library. We will discuss *Fortune's Children: The Fall of the House of Vanderbilt*, by Arthur T. Vanderbilt II. All are welcome.

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## Monterey News

The *Monterey News* is an independent nonprofit corporation dedicated to fostering communication in the Monterey community. Our editorial address is PO Box 9, Monterey, MA, 01245. We invite signed letters, articles, drawings, poetry, and photographs. Submissions may also be sent to the email address below. Address requests for advertising rates and further information to the Editor, or telephone us at 413-528-4007 or email montereynews9@gmail.com.

## Save the Dates

**October 1:** Monterey Community Center Octoberfest

**October 8:** Council on Aging Health Fair

## Town Contact Information

**Emergency! 911**

**Administrative Assistant**:
528-1443 x111
admin@montereyma.gov
(for town boards and misc. questions)

**Assessor**: 528-1443 x115
assessors@montereyma.gov

**Building Dept.**: 528-1443 x118
buildingsafety@montereyma.gov

**Fire Department** (non-emergency):
528-3136
fire_service@montereyfire.org

**Highway Dept.**: 528-1734
mhwy@verizon.net

**Library**: 528-3795
montereylibrary@gmail.com

**Police Dept.** (non-emergency):
528-1443 x116,
Alternate emergency 528-3211
mpdchief@montereyma.gov

**Post Office**: 528-4670

**Tax Collector**: 528-1443 x117
montereytax@yahoo.com
(for questions about your tax bill)

**Town Clerk**: 528-1443 x113
clerk@montereyma.gov
(for licenses and town records)

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Treasurer ..... Steve Pullen

*Contributions from local artists this month:*
*Maureen Banner, pp. 13, 17, George Emmons, p. 16;*
*Bonner McAllester, p. 14.*

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